

biological samples comprising:

measuring the expression of said gene and simultaneously measuring the expression of at least ten maintenance genes selected from the group consisting of:

Profilin, Thymosin beta-4 mRNA, Prothymosin alpha mRNA (ProT-alpha), Actin depolymerizing factor, Adducin gamma subunit, Myosin regulatory light chain, Non-muscle type cofilin, Myeloid cell differentiation protein (MCL1), ATP synthase subunit c encoded by P1, ATP synthase alpha subunit, Vacuolar ATP synthase subunit AC45 precursor, ATP synthase gamma-subunit (L-type), ATP synthase beta subunit, Mitochondrial ATPase coupling factor 6 subunit (ATP5A), NaK-ATPase beta-1 subunit, Sodium/potassium-transporting ATPase beta-3 subunit, H⁺-ATP synthase subunit b, ATP-citrate lyase, Vacuolar-type H⁽⁺⁾-ATPase 115 kDa subunit, AQP3 aquaporine 3 (water channel), and Voltage-dependent anion channel isoform 1 (VDAC);

and comparing said expression of said gene in said plurality of samples with the expression of said at least ten maintenance genes.

REMARKS

Claims 10 and 11 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled Claims in a related application. Claim 13 has been amended. Support for the amendment may be found on, e.g., page 4 of the specification (lines 17-21). These amendments do not present new matter.

A. Objection to the Specification

Claims 10-13 are objected to allegedly because Claim 13 includes a Markush group of names of “maintenance genes” that lacks proper punctuation. Applicants have amended Claim 13 to separate the gene/protein names by commas. Therefore, this objection to the specification is obviated.